CONTACT INFO

Phone: 908-874-3141 Fax: 908-874-7040

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34 Yorktown Road Hillsborough, NJ 08844-5139

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Daily Mass:

Monday-Saturday 8:35 AM

Weekend Masses:

Saturday 4:45 PM Sunday 7:15 AM 9:30 AM 11:30 AM 6:00 PM

Holyday Masses:

 Vigil
 5:00 PM

 Holyday
 8:35 AM & 7:00 PM

Confessions:

Saturday 4 - 4:30 PM

or by appointment

EMERGENCIES

Sacrament of Anointing Call 908-874-3141 and press 1 for a priest.

Crisis Pregnancy Hotline 732-516-0911

Suicide Prevention

NJ Lifeline 1-800-273TALK Teen Crisis Text Hotline Text 741741

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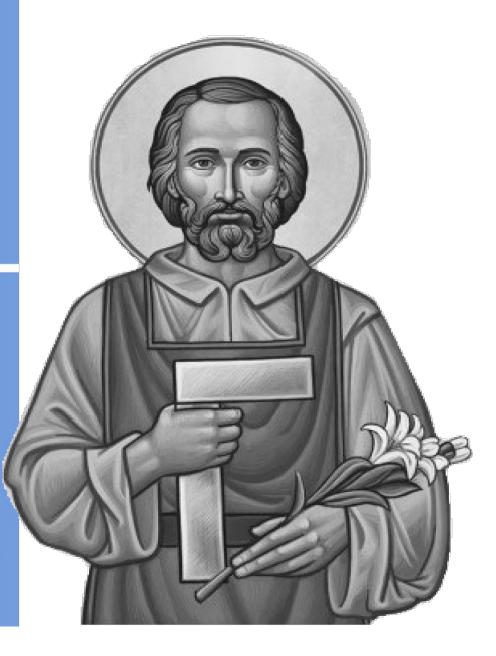
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IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

MASS INTENTIONS are combined as follows:

4:45 Mass will combine 4:45, 7:15 & 6:00 intentions.. 9:30 will combine 9:30 & 11:30 intentions..

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. 8:35AM Daniel Cunning.

R/B Pam Cunning

Tue. 8:35AM Albert Toni

R/B Selwa Toni

8:35AM Joseph Errico

R/B Tina Lochmann

8:35AM Joseph Rasmusson

R/B Conklin Family

Wed. 8:35AM Gerard Hastaba

R/B Kral Family

Thu. 8:35AM Marilyn Harris

R/B Bernie Demsky

Fri. 8:35AM Janet & Tom Kirk

R/B Claire Beirne

8:35AM Francis J MacNamara

R/B Katie Foster

Sat. 4:45PM Walter & Magda Komar

R/B Donna Komar & Family

4:45PM Pat & Bridget Gagliardi

R/B Pat & Joanne Gagliardi

4:45PM People of the Parish

Sun. 9:30PM Giuseppe Cilia

R/B Silvana & Joe Dudajek

9:30P Pilar Advani

R/B Mercedes Reyes

9:30PM Maria Angiuli

R/B Angiuli Family

9:30PM Living & Deceased Members

Of Shore & Mayer Families R/B Catherine Shore

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK

Acts of the Apostles 4:32-35 I John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31



Holy Saturday
Dear All: Christ's Peace!

Three beliefs underlie this letter. First, I believe in the power of mnemonics, "memory-aiding verses or formulae." Who could forget "Roy G Biv" or "My very efficient mother. . ."? I make up new ones most weeks to keep the homilies in order. Second, I believe God is particularly generous on Holy Saturday. For those who set aside time for prayer and reflection, the experience is frequently remarkably rich. Third, I believe in the benefit of repetition. Saint Ignatius affirms this belief in his instructions for repeating certain meditations.

What follows is my extended mnemonic for recalling the gospels of Lent, Year B. I lack the hubris to call it a poem but am glad to share it as the mnemonic that has helped me keep straight the last eight Sunday and holyday gospels. I send this to you on Holy Saturday hoping that today might provide time for you to pray and reflect on the many ways Jesus releases you and me from the fears that drag us away from His peace. Finally, I hope a review of recent gospels might park their liberating power more deeply in your beautiful soul.

A Mnemonic for Lent, Year B
Free from fear while wandering wilderness
Free from fear while climbing Your mountain
Free from fear when my old roads close
Free from fear when Your new roads open

Free from fearing myself when my hours come Free from fearing praise for the wrong me Free from fearing I don't do for as You did Free from fearing Yours, five under three

Free from fear while wandering wilderness

(First Sunday of Lent – February 21, 2021 – Mark 1: 12-15 – The Temptation in the Wilderness)

"The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and

The wilderness Jesus enters, like those we experience, is unfamiliar, inhospitable, and perilous. It is

the angels ministered to him."

also a place where angels ministered to Him and a place of great grace. When you recall your wilderness experiences – those you have entered voluntarily and those that descended on you – what blessings remind you that there are always lights in the jumbles, graces in the desert, and angels in the wilderness? Name some blessings that have taught you not to fear wilderness.

Free from fear while climbing Your mountain (Second Sunday of Lent – February 28, 2021 – Mark 9: 2-10 – The Transfiguration) "Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves." Our bible frequently depicts mountains as places where God clarifies the call. Think of Moses at Mount Sinai, Elijah on Mount Carmel, and Jesus on the Mount of the Beatitudes. Similarly, the mountain of the Transfiguration became a place of terrifying clarity. Peter "hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified." When we climb God's mountain, we leave convenient confusion at the base. It is natural to fear that, in deafening clarity, we might hear God making a very difficult request. But we know, as Rose knew, "God's call only takes us where God's love holds us." What mountain/clarity experiences have convinced you that Rose is right? What experiences have taught you not to fear God's holy mountains?

Free from fear when my old roads close (Third Sunday of Lent – March 7, 2021 – John 2: 13-25 – Jesus Cleanses the Temple) "Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves . . . (and) money changers . . . (He) drove them all out . . . spilled the coins of the money changers . . . and said. 'Take these out of here.'"

The temple markets started off serving a very useful function. They enabled pilgrims to offer sacrifice. The markets then took a bad turn. They started facilitating ritual that was detached from relationship with God. Jesus symbolically stopped that practice. He declared that that practice would never lead to light happiness or peace. He declared that road "closed." Jesus does the same in our hearts. He teaches us that some of our practices will never lead to peace, only to turmoil. He closes roads some roads so that we will travel the roads that lead to true peace. Providence continually shows us new roads that lead to truer peace. When have you faced the realization "This road is closed?" The awareness that old habits lead nowhere? What

teaches you that God only closes roads that lead to desolation? What fear-beating stories has the experience of a closed road placed in your heart?

Free from fear when Your new roads open (Fourth Sunday of Lent – March 14, 2021 – John 3: 14-21 – Jesus teaches Nicodemus)

"Jesus said to Nicodemus: . . . For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him."

Jesus is inviting Nicodemus, a leader of the Jewish community, to travel the new road of faith in Christ. Jesus appreciates fully the fear involved in traveling a new road. New paths sometimes lead us through unfamiliar and scary places. Still, Jesus invites Nicodemus to travel a new road that the Father has opened. New roads have proliferated during this pandemic year. Yes, the pandemic has broken our hearts and yes, the pandemic has opened astonishing new roads. We have travelled new roads of prayer, service, and building community. The changes can dazzle us when we stop to review them. In what ways has God, during the pandemic, opened new roads to you and to all of us. How has the experience of the pandemic's new roads taught you to trust God's new roads?

Free from fearing myself when my hours come (Fifth Sunday of Lent – March 21, 2021 – John 12: 20-33 – Jesus acknowledges His hour has come, and He prays)

"Jesus answered them 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit . . . I am troubled now. Yet what should I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'?"

In the early parts of John's gospel, Jesus says three times that His hour had not yet come. That claim ends with the words of 12:23. He knows the hour has come for him to "fall to the ground and die." This truth troubles Him deeply. Part of Him wants to avoid the agony. But He knows that is not an option. John has Jesus using different words to express the same request the synoptics depict during the Agony in the Garden, "Let not my will but thine be done." You have had enough experience of yourself to trust yourself during life's most difficult choices. We all have reasons not to trust ourselves

in those moments. But we also have reasons not to fear ourselves, reasons to trust ourselves, when our hours come. What in your history teaches you that you can trust yourself to seek God's hopes in those hours?

Free from fearing praise for the wrong me

(Palm Sunday – March 28, 2021 – Mark 14: 1 – 15: 47 – Crowds proclaim Jesus' entry into Jerusalem) "Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come! Hosanna in the highest!"

The crowds that welcomed Jesus to Jerusalem did not fully understand Him. The cloaks on the road, the spread of leafy branches, and the references to King David point to the same truth. They wanted Him to be the one to liberate Israel from the Romans. He could have done that. But he chose not to. They praised the wrong Him and He did not fall for it. He stayed His course. You too have had people affirming the wrong you. Sometimes they affirm you for stepping into the darkness. Sometimes they affirm you for pursuing the lesser light. But you have frequently stayed the course. You have learned you do not have to fear praise for the wrong you, praise that could steer you the wrong way. When have you stayed the inspired course when forceful voices encouraged you to change courses?

Free from fearing I don't do for as You did

(Holy Thursday – April 1, 2021 – John 13: 1–15 – Jesus washes His disciples' feet)

"He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end. . . Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet . . . You ought to wash one another's feet . . . As I have done for you, you should also do"

Jesus asks us only to do for one another as He has done for us. More specifically, He asks us to wash one another's feet. But where do we go with that request? Taken literally, foot-washing is not a thing we do. Taken more broadly, in the context of three details in scripture, we do it all the time. First, Jesus tells the disciples to wash one another's feet. He does not tell them to do so for all people. He is asking them to focus on their nearest and dearest. You do that. Second, He uses foot-washing to teach them. He focuses on a dirty chore for which few

would volunteer, but it is a chore that makes the other feel valued and that enables the other to feel at home in the community. You do that. Finally, He does it in the context of "loving them to the end," when it is convenient or not. You do that. You have especially done all these things during the pandemic. You have been loving your nearest and dearest consistently and effectively. How have your expressions of love in the pandemic justified the assertion that you do "do for as He did," loving your nearest and dearest effectively and consistently?

Free from fearing Yours five under three

(Good Friday – April 2, 2021 – John 18:1–19:42 –

Our crucified Jesus speaks to Mary and John)

"Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved he said to his mother, 'Woman, behold, your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Behold, your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his home." Our world's history is desecrated by moments when individuals and societies conclude another human is something less than fully human. When another is, as the label went, "three-fifths" of a person. The atypical among us, as well as our "last, least, and littlest" are frequently at risk for being classified this way and treated badly. Parents of people with disabilities confess that their biggest fear is what will happen to their beloved after they die. Spouses and children of facilities-bound loved ones share a similar concern. Jesus surely felt it. His mother was at risk for being treated as three-fifths of a person. She would be a poor widow with no living children and would forever be associated with the son whom the Romans executed as a criminal. In clarifying the relationship between Mary and John, Jesus insures that she would not be treated as threefifths. She would always have someone who treated her as five-fifths. In speaking to John, Jesus speaks to us. He asks us to be part of the solution.

I send this with love and with blessings..

to assure that none of his beloved are treated as

three-fifths of a person. In what ways do you al-

is at risk for being treated as three fifths. In what

game, so that not one of God's beloved feels "five

circumstances is Jesus asking you to up your

ready have a habit of connecting with a person who

Father Hank

under three"?



HEALING PRAYER

Healing Prayer invites anyone who is ill, facing surgery, hurting, anxious, burdened or worried to seek prayer for themselves or others. Jesus working through the minister will bring healing, glory and grace to your soul. God's love guides the ministers as they pray. All sessions are private & confidential.

Healing prayer requests can be not only for yourself but also for family and friends. Requests may cover healing of body, mind and spiritual issues.

Members of our Healing Prayer Ministry have created a virtual option and a phone option which is offered at 10:30AM after the 9:30 Sunday Mass and takes place every other weekend until we are back to normal.

Sundays, April 11 & 25 May 9 & 23

To participate in the virtua meeting, click on https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7692788835 and follow the directions. You can also engage the healing prayer over the phone by calling 1-929-205-6099 and then the ID number key in 769-278-8835#.

SAGES ACTIVITIES

Walking/hiking group: .

Our next walk will be **on April 7** at Colonial Park. . To be placed on the walking group emails, please get in touch with AnnaMaria at 908-874-3141, extension 240, or email her at arealbuto@stjosephsparish.com

Sages Picnic Luncheons will resume biweekly under the tent beginning on Monday, **April 19 from 12-2pm**. Registration to follow.

Thursdays, beginning **April 22 at 11am** will be **Toning Thursdays** under the tent. We will resume with our Healthy Bones chair exercise class for 8 weeks, followed by 6 weeks of Drums Alive.

IN MEMORIAM

Maria Teresa Marabini Moevs, 95, mother of Marina and Christian, died on February 23.

Virginia (Pirone) Peluso, 90, mother of parishioner Paula (John) Obenauer, died on March 20.

Please pray for their eternal rest and for consolation for their families and for all who mourn their deaths.

IN GOD'S IMAGE

In God's Image, the Catholic Faith Sharing Group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people at Church of the Sacred Heart, South Plainfield, meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7:00PM. Our next meeting is April 14 and will be on Zoom. Please email for more information. The group is open to LGBTQ adults, 18 and over, and their families. All are welcome for faith sharing, prayer, conversation and support. For more information, contact Fr John at 908 756 0633, ext 125 or the group may be reached by contacting 908 822 5895 or by emailingsacredheartigi@gmail.com.

MEN'S RITE OF PASSAGE RETREAT

A retreat to help Men on their Spiritual Journey created by Fr. Richard Rohr O.F.M

Coming to NJ for the first time this Fall..

More information can be found at https://www.illumandc.org/mrop-2021

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, September 29 through Sunday, October 3, 2021.

CHECK OUT OUR SITE: Our venue is the Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center in Johnsonburg, NJ – a beautiful environment in nature, only one hour from Newark Airport.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN ~ SIGN UP TODAY:. CONTACT US WITH YOUR QUESTIONS: Forward your questions to: John Ball, ILLUMAN DC Convener – johnball0450@gmail.com

OR

If you or someone you know is interested and would like to know more information about the retreat you may contact parishioner Anthony Monticchio at godspell@embargmail.com.



LOOKING AHEAD

Our Parish Office of Religious Education is already looking ahead to the future and making plans for CCD classes beginning in September 2021. Dealing with all the precautions from the pandemic caused some setbacks this past year and we're hoping to do everything we can to be better prepared for the new school year.

Do you love children? Do you love your Faith?

Here is an opportunity to share your Faith with children and WE NEED YOU to consider volunteering to be a CCD TEACHER.

The Metuchen Diocese is providing a workshop to give you more information about this calling from God.

The Vocation of Catechist 101 When: April 27 &28

Where: Virtual Workshop (registrants will receive a link via email)

Time: 7 to 8:30 p.m. both nights
This course will be presented LIVE VIA ZOOM.

Participants will explore their call to serve in catechetical ministry, have the opportunity to learn more about what catechesis is, and consider the vocation of catechist. They will learn to see themselves as a "teacher" of the faith and as a missionary disciple who witnesses their faith and relationship with Jesus in word and deed.

We will share how we can create an environment with young people and families that can encounter the Lord, lead others effectively to prayer and creatively engage our young people in ways that are also adaptable in virtual learning environments. Time will be allotted for personal prayer and reflection.

Presenters: Carol Mascola Director, Office of Discipleship the Formation, Diocese of Metuchen and Candi Gonzalez, Parish Catechetical Leader, Our Lady of Peace Parish, Fords

There is no charge for these workshops. You may also call Jim Jungels at our parish for more information

LIFE-GIIVING WOUNDS VIRTUAL RETREAT

The Diocese of Metuchen's Office of Family Life will sponsor this retreat, designed for anyone over the age of 18 whose parents are no longer together. The virtual retreat will be conducted over the course of **3 Saturdays: April 17 & 24 & May 1**. On the first 2 Saturdays, participants will attend via Zoom from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and on the 3rd Saturday, a Mass will be celebrated for all adult children of divorce.

People of all backgrounds attend, but together they have one key thing in common: they have lost the love of their parents together. Topics will include discussing anxiety, anger, sin, temptation and forgiveness. All presentations are given by trained, expert speakers who are children of divorce. So, whether a person's parents divorced decades ago or last week, the retreat content will apply to them. The retreat is also for people whose parents are separated (but not legally divorced), received a declaration of nullity, or were never married (maybe never even together) and are now broken up.

For more information and to register, please visit: www.diometuchen.org/adult-children-of-divorce

Join us for a Virtual Evening with

Father James J. Martin, SJ "LEARNING TO PRAY"

Many of us struggle with prayer. Nothing seems to happen, or we get distracted, or we're not even sure how to do it.

What is prayer? What are some ways to do it? And what happens in prayer?

Everyone can pray, that includes you! Enter into a deeper relationship with God, who desires to meet you in prayer.

Wednesday, May 5, 2021, 7-9 PM \$25 per person -Registration Required www.msmhope.org

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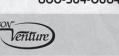
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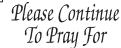
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